

The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

In addition to the "form letter" below, I wanted to say something about my situation. Not everyone uses a lot of cell phone minutes or spends a lot of time on cell phones. We still use our land lines and "regular" long distance for most conversations, but just use cell phones for emergencies or very unusual situations. We have a contract through Tracfone, which costs us about \$8/month. We don't need very many minutes, and we want very inexpensive service. So if you change the USF, it will only encourage us and others in our situation to abandon our land lines and use cell phones almost exclusively. I think this would be a very bad move (not to mention, causing companies like Tracfone to go out of business). Please act out of fairness, and refrain from selling out to big special interests.

Congratulations on your appointment to Chair the FCC. In your new leadership role, I urge you to support the "Fair Share Plan" as a solution to current concerns with the Universal Service Fund (USF). The Fair Share Plan will keep the USF fair, ensuring that consumers like me do not pay the same rate into the USF as big businesses, regardless of how little I may use long distance.

The Keep USF Fair Coalition submitted the Fair Share Plan to the FCC on January 31, 2005. It expands who pays into the USF so that other technologies - not just phones - pay into the system. The Fair Share Plan collects the USF using a combination numbers- and revenue-based plan. This keeps the system fair, equitable and non-discriminatory.

Under the flat fee or numbers-based plan you are considering, people like me who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. I believe it would be unfair to charge low-volume and residential customers the same fees as high-volume residential or business customers.

I urge you to keep the USF fair, and adopt the Fair Share Plan. Thank you, and best of luck in your new position.

cc: Marlene Dortch, Secretary

Sincerely,

James Caristi
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Valparaiso, Indiana 46383